

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL
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Dept. of Bacteriology.

8th. April, 1952.

Dear Cavalli,

Many thanks for your letter of 3/4/52. I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to Lederberg. I hope you don't mind my answering you in this way just now but I am very busy. I much appreciate your suggestion of publishing your joint paper in the J. Gen. Microbiol. and I consider it an excellent idea to have our respective papers in the same number. I still have a certain amount of consolidation to do but this should not take more than 2-3 weeks when I can get down to it after the Oxford meeting next week. I have previously told you of my experiments on the relative efficiency of $F^+ \times F^+$ and $F^+ \times F^-$ matings and you will see in my letter to Lederberg of another experiment arising out of these which, I think, eliminates the possibility of a union of two haploid sets of chromosomes, followed by crossing-over and meiosis. It will, of course, have to be repeated but I am reasonably confident of the results. I will send you copies of the relevant experimental protocols as soon as these have been photographed. If I confirm these results on the different distribution of marker patterns in relation to $(58F^+ \times WF^-)$, $(WF^+ \times 58F^-)$ and $(58F^+ \times WF^+)$ matings I shall, of course, abandon the term "gamete" but I am sticking to the gene donor and acceptor idea. My own views are

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beginning to crystallise a bit. I think the best thing for me to do will be to send you a typescript of my forthcoming ~~paper~~ paper to the Soc.Gen.Microbiol. This will be only a skeleton, of course, but it will be a more precise formulation of my views at the moment than I may have given in my letters. You would find in it a firmer basis for commenting on my theory in your own paper and to this I am quite amenable. May I, too, discuss your view that F+ is transferred separately from those characters directly involved in "recombination" and determines the mating compatibility between the mutants, as well as accounting for the absence of mating between F- cells? I think I have your view correctly.

Thank you for your offer for further exchange of ideas and comments which I will certainly take advantage of. I am sorry about the dinner which certainly prejudiced a clear exchange of ideas but, perhaps, it wasn't such a bad idea after all!

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Bill Hayes

P.S. I learn from an American who has worked with him that Lederberg is only 27!